



Application for Citizen University's Youth Collaboratory – 2025

We're excited that you've chosen to apply for Citizen University's Youth Collaboratory. This opportunity is designed for passionate young leaders who want to make an impact in their communities. The program is a six-month commitment, with both virtual and in-person components. You'll engage in leadership development, community organizing, and the power of civic engagement.

Before you start your application, take the time to review these questions and prepare your responses. You'll be able to answer them in the online form, but downloading them ahead of time can help you craft thoughtful answers. We're here to support you—if you have any questions, feel free to reach out!

Downloadable List of Application Questions

Personal Information:

1. **Full Name**

Enter your full legal name.

2. **Email Address**

Provide an email address we can reach you at.

3. **Phone Number**

Enter a phone number where we can contact you.

4. **City, State**

Where are you currently located?

5. **Community Area**

Describe the population density of your area: Urban, Suburban, Rural, Other.

6. **Racial Identity**

How do you identify racially? (e.g., Mixed Race, White, Asian)

7. **Gender Identity**

Share your gender identity (e.g., Female, Nonbinary) or prefer not to say.

8. **Pronouns**

Which pronouns do you use? (e.g., she/her, they/them)

9. **Birthday**

Enter your birthdate.

10. **Family Contact**

Who should we keep in the loop about your application? Name, relationship, phone number, and email.

School Information:

1. **School Name**

Tell us the name of your school.

2. **City**

In what city or town is your school located?

3. **School Type**

Is it a Public, Charter, Private, Religious, or Home School?

4. **Year in School**

What year are you currently in? (Sophomore, Junior)

Reference (Optional):

1. **Reference Name**

Provide the name of an adult (teacher, coach, etc.) who knows you well.

2. **Relationship to You**

How do they know you?

3. **Reference Phone and Email**

Their contact details.

Written Prompts (250 words each):

1. **Identity**

Describe a facet of your identity that is meaningful to you. Why is it important to you?

2. **Community**

Describe your community. Why does it matter to you and the country?

3. **Values**

Choose one of Citizen University's core values (Responsibility, Equity, Spirit, Purpose, Ingenuity, Collaboration, Trust) and explain why it resonates with you.

Creative Prompts:

1. **Civic Power**

What does "Civic Power" mean to you? You can either write or upload a creative response (video, poem, drawing, song, etc.).

2. **American Identity**

What does being American mean to you? You can either write or submit a creative response.

Program Commitment:

1. **Cohort Preference**

Would you prefer to join the Winter (December 2024 – April 2025) or Summer (May 2025 – October 2025) cohort?

2. **Travel Availability**

Each Youth Collaboratory Cohort will travel to two in-person gatherings. These gatherings are a required part of the Youth Collaboratory commitment.

Please check each box to indicate that you are available to travel on the following dates in 2025:

- a. *Winter Cohort Trip 1: Seattle, WA (Jan 29 – Feb 1, 2025)*
- b. *Winter Cohort Trip 2: Los Angeles, CA (Apr 2 – 5, 2025)*
- c. *Summer Cohort Trip 1: Cambridge, MA (Jul 23 – 26, 2025)*
- d. *Summer Cohort Trip 2: New York, NY (Oct 15 – 18, 2025)*

e. *I have a question or comment about one or more of these trips.*

3. Virtual Meetings

Which times work best for virtual meetings (select from options such as Tuesday at 3 pm PT, Thursday at 4 pm PT)?

4. Time Commitment

How busy are you? (Select from options like: I have a lot of free time, I feel overwhelmed, etc.)

Activities and Interests:

1. What activities fill up your time?

What are your passions? What do you dedicate your energy to?

Final Thoughts:

1. How did you hear about the Youth Collaboratory?

Choose from options such as Citizen University's Instagram, a Youth Collaboratory alumnus, etc.

2. Anything else you want us to know?

Questions, thoughts, or ideas you want to share.

You can download these questions from here to work on them in advance. We're excited to learn more about you and your unique perspective! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to our Program Manager, Davis Endava, at davis@citizenuniversity.us.

Good luck with your application!